

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR:RZSMITH/AJ
APPROVED BY EUR -- MR. SMITH
EB/ORF/FSE -- MR. BENNSKY
H -- MR. MACKENZIE (SUBS)
SEN. MUSKIE'S OFF.--MR. MICOLEAU
----- 064470

P 210137Z DEC 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
SUBJ: MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU FROM SENATOR
MUSKIE OF MAINE REGARDING RESIDUAL FUEL OIL
EXPORTS FROM CANADA.

1. AS CONSEQUENCE OF DECEMBER 20 MEETING OF MAINE
CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF GREAT
NORTHERN AND GEORGIA PACIFIC PAPER MILLS (AT WHICH
REPRESENTATIVES OF DEPARTMENT AND FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINIS-
TRATION WERE ALSO PRESENT), SENATOR MUSKIE HAS REQUESTED
DEPARTMENT TO INSTRUCT THE EMBASSY TO DELIVER THE FOLLOW-
ING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM HIM TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU.
ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD DELIVER TEXT SOONEST. SIGNED
ORIGINAL, DATED DECEMBER 20, WILL FOLLOW BY POUCH.

2. "DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

TOGETHER WITH SENATOR WILLIAM HATHAWAY, CONGRESSMAN
PETER KYROS AND CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM COHEN, I MET THIS
AFTERNOON WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GREAT NORTHERN
AND GEORGIA PACIFIC PAPER MILLS WHICH ARE LOCATED IN
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THE STATE OF MAINE. WE DISCUSSED THE ACUTE PROBLEM

FACING BOTH OF THESE MILLS IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY ASSURANCES THAT THE NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD OF CANADA WILL BE ABLE TO APPROVE EXPORT LICENSES FOR RESIDUAL FUEL

OIL SHIPMENTS, AFTER DECEMBER 1973, FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL SOLE SUPPLIER IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK. AFTER CONSULTING WITH OUR STATE DEPARTMENT AND OUR FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION, THE MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FELT THAT I, AS CHAIRMAN, SHOULD TAKE THE UNUSUAL STEP OF ADDRESSING YOU DIRECTLY IN ORDER TO BRING THIS MOST DIFFICULT SITUATION TO YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION.

WE HAVE BEEN MINDFUL OF THE PUBLIC ASSURANCES YOU HAVE GIVEN THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT, WHILE NECESSARILY GIVING FIRST ATTENTION TO CANADIAN NEEDS, WILL DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO TAKE ACCOUNT, AS WELL, OF PROBLEMS ON OUR SIDE OF THE BORDER. OUR PARTICULAR CONCERN IS THAT IN THESE TWO CASES THE CRITERION OF CANADIAN NEEDS MAY BE CONSTRUED SO NARROWLY AS TO RESULT IN UNNECESSARY HARM TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ECONOMIES ON BOTH SIDES OF MAINE'S BORDER WITH EASTERN CANADA.

AS I AM SURE YOU ARE AWARE, THE ECONOMIES OF MAINE AND EASTERN CANADA ARE SO INTIMATELY RELATED THAT THE THREATENED CLOSING OF THESE MILLS WILL INEVITABLY HAVE PROMPT AND UNHAPPY CONSEQUENCES FOR THE CITIZENS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. I AM TOLD, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT AMONG SOME 8000 JOBS WHICH DEPEND UPON THESE MILLS, MORE THAN 1000 ARE HELD BY CANADIANS. AS A FURTHER EXAMPLE, I UNDERSTAND THAT OVER FIFTY WOOD MILLS IN SOUTHERN QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK NOW THRIVE ON RAW MATERIALS FROM MAINE FORESTS, AND WOOD PULP VALUED AT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IS PURCHASED ANNUALLY IN CANADA FOR USE IN THESE TWO PAPER MILLS. MY POINT HERE IS THAT SO SERIOUS A DISRUPTION AS THE CLOSING OF GREAT NORTHERN AND GEORGIA PACIFIC WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ACROSS THE BORDER AS WELL. I WOULD EARNESTLY HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT YOUR AUTHORITIES COULD BEAR IN MIND THAT THE PROBLEM IS NOT SIMPLY THE ARITHMETIC OF CURRENT RESIDUAL FUEL DEMANDS IN BOTH JURISDICTIONS BUT HAS BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF

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WHICH I KNOW NEITHER GOVERNMENT WANTS TO BE UNMINDFUL.

I UNDERSTAND THAT AUTHORITIES OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER ABOUT THE MORE GENERAL PROBLEMS BOTH OF US FACE IN THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD OF ACUTE ENERGY SHORTAGES, AND I AM TOLD FURTHER MEETINGS ARE CONTEMPLATED AT AN EARLY DATE. THIS IS ENCOURAGING AND IS IN THE TRADITIONAL PATTERN OF CANADIAN-AMERICAN

COOPERATION. I KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT BOTH OF US ARE STRUGGLING WITH NEW PROBLEMS OF MASSIVE DIMENSIONS AND THAT IT IS GOING TO TAKE TIME FOR US TO SORT OUT THE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN BEST TAKE ACCOUNT OF EACH OTHER'S PROBLEMS.

MY CONCERN IS THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MECHANICS FOR SUCH COOPERATION WILL INEVITABLY TAKE TIME AND THAT MEANWHILE SERIOUS INJUSTICE MAY INADVERTENTLY BE SUFFERED IN THE TWO CASES AT HAND.

I HAVE LONG TAKEN A SPECIAL INTEREST IN OUR RELATIONS WITH CANADA AND INDEED HAVE BEEN HONORED TO SERVE ON THE ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK COMMISSION. IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT I HAVE PRESUMED TO MAKE THIS DIRECT APPEAL TO YOU AND TO ASK YOU TO DO WHATEVER YOU APPROPRIATELY CAN TO INSURE THAT THE APPLICATIONS FOR THE MILLS IN QUESTION ARE EXAMINED IN THE BROAD CONTEXT OF THE NEED OF BOTH COUNTRIES FOR CONTINUED COOPERATION.

I REALIZE WE ARE QUICKLY APPROACHING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SEASON, BUT THE PARTICULAR CASES AT HAND ARE MOST URGENT. IF IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOUR AUTHORITIES, THEREFORE, MY COLLEAGUES IN THE MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND I WOULD BE PREPARED TO VISIT OTTAWA WITHIN THE COMING WEEK OR TEN DAYS IN ORDER TO HELP ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, PROVIDE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION, AND EXPLAIN MORE FULLY THE DEPTH OF OUR CONCERN AS LEGISLATORS.

WITH CORDIAL BEST WISHES,

EDMUND S. MUSKIE
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UNITED STATES SENATOR"

RUSH

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